



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE

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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

FORMER STRAFFORD MAN SENTENCED FOR FIREARM VIOLATION

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire Tom Colantuono and Portsmouth Police Chief Michael Magnant announce that Donald Ure, age 37 and formerly of Strafford, New Hampshire, was sentenced today in federal court by United States District Court Judge Steven McAuliffe to 2 years probation, including 6 months home confinement, for possessing a firearm while being an unlawful user of controlled substances. It is a felony under federal law to possess a firearm while addicted to, or unlawfully using controlled substances.

Mr. Ure was arrested by a Portsmouth police officer in the early morning hours of September 11, 2003, in a commercial parking lot on Green Street in Portsmouth. After a brief encounter with Ure, and following a consensual search of Ure's vehicle, the officer placed Ure under arrest for possession of a controlled substance. The officer also located Ure's Smith & Wesson 9 millimeter handgun in the back of the vehicle. Ure later admitted to being an unlawful user at the time of the possession of the handgun.

United States Attorney Colantuono said, "This case is another example of the Justice Department's Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative. Firearms in the hands of drug users is a dangerous combination. Let this case send the message that the risk of violence that arises from drugs and guns will not be tolerated." This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Howard.

